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ness and substantial truth, being common to them with all the surviving historical literature of a remote antiquity. He is particularly happy in establishing a close parallelism in these respects between the sacred writers and Herodotus, who sometimes uses round numbers seemingly at haphazard, though he had been a diligent inquirer after historical truth, and plumed himself on his accuracy. If it be maintained that the very words of the Hebrew Scriptures were divinely dictated, of course no such analogy as this can shield them from assault; but their having the faults and defects common to all early essays at historical writing by no means impairs their claim to be regarded as trustworthy records of Divine revelation.

17. — *Christian Self-Culture; or Counsels for the Beginning and Progress of a Christian Life.* By LEONARD BACON, Pastor of the First Church in New Haven. Boston: American Tract Society. 1862. 16mo. pp. 255.

WE rejoice to avail ourselves of a new opportunity of bearing testimony to the eminent services rendered to religion and humanity by the American Tract Society at Boston. Our quarterly list has chronicled the names of some of its publications, but of course could convey no adequate idea of their worth. Its issues are always timely. Since the outbreking of the present rebellion, it has busied itself largely on literature for the army, including abridged biographies of such men as Hodson and Havelock, collections of hymns, tunes, and prayers for worship in the camp, several editions of Cromwell's Soldier's Bible, religious appeals adapted to the exigencies of military life, and directions for the preservation of health, the treatment of wounds, and the care of the sick. At the same time it has sent forth hardly less than its usual variety of juvenile stories, and of books suited to the needs of divers classes of readers.

The work named at the head of this notice seems to us to merit emphatic commendation. Without departing from the standard of strict orthodoxy as to the Divine agency in the religious life, Dr. Bacon discusses the necessity and the methods of man's agency in the culture of the Christian character, with the wisdom which marks the experienced guide in the way of salvation, with entire freedom from technical phraseology and limiting dogmas, and with a tender earnestness which must give his words entrance and power wherever the book shall fall into the hands of one who sincerely desires to educate himself for heaven.